

LET'S EXPLORE—

BY JOHN T. CUNNINGHAM

Old Mine Country

NEW JERSEY REFERENCE
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THE rugged hills of Northern Morris County, where ironmasters once prospered, today offer quiet roads away from ever-crowded Routes 23 and 6. Those who enjoy rural scenery will find restful driving in this area of splendid forests, pretty little lakes and easy-paced towns. Most of the industry which made these hills ring a century ago is gone, yet the route encircles vital installations at Picatinny Arsenal and Lake Denmark Naval Ammunition Depot.

Denville is the starting point and the trip is under way as the motorist turns north in Diamond Spring road. Ponds set in woodland call for attention to the left, then about four miles from Denville turn left on newly improved Meriden road for a ride through a little-settled region where white birches grow profusely and rambling old "snake" fences abound.

A left turn in Meriden leads through boulder-strewn country to Beach Glen, once a thriving mining center. Turn right at the saw mill to Hibernia, typical of the many villages along the way which have seen livelier times. Long ago iron men found wealth here, but Hibernia's main street now is dominated by a handsome edifice, the 82-year-old Methodist Church.

ROUTE 23 at Newfoundland calls for another left turn, but traffic fades again through a swing south on Oak Ridge road. The reward is a cooling ride down beautiful Longwood Valley, nestled between Bowling Green and Green Pond mountains. Tall pines mingle with splendid hardwood trees to make the road a delight for the nature lover.

Near Lake Swannanoa, work this Spring has considerably improved the road, although it carries the motorist somewhat away from the sturdy fieldstone buildings which once were part of the estate of Richard T. Ringling, circus magnate. Some of the buildings were used years ago for housing part of the famed circus. Route 6-A is met in the old village of Berkshire Valley, whose importance grew after the building of Union turnpike in the first decade of the 19th Century. Turn left on 6-A for the route to Dover and junction with Routes 6 and 10.

Dozens of tiny ponds and lakes are found in the Morris County area covered in today's trip. The one pictured at left is just above Marcella.





In vicinity of rural bridge over Beaver Brook near Meriden are rustic fences and rows of shady trees—a picturesque combination for camera fans.



"Four Corners" in Berkshire Valley, village with 18th Century history.



Hibernia Methodist Church, erected in 1869, dominates main street.

Let's Explore PHOTO CONTEST

TAKE your camera along on a "Let's Explore" trip and shoot for one of the five prize-winning photographs which will be printed each week in The Newark Sunday News. There has to be a time limit, of course, so 10 days is allowed after each trip has been described in this magazine.

You may enter as many photographs as you want for one or all of the "Let's Explore" trips. There will be five prizes in each week's contest. **FIRST PRIZE WILL BE \$15, SECOND PRIZE \$10, THIRD PRIZE \$5 and the FOURTH AND FIFTH PRIZES WILL BE \$3 EACH.**

Now for the rules:

1. Photographs must be in black and white, and clear enough for newspaper reproduction.

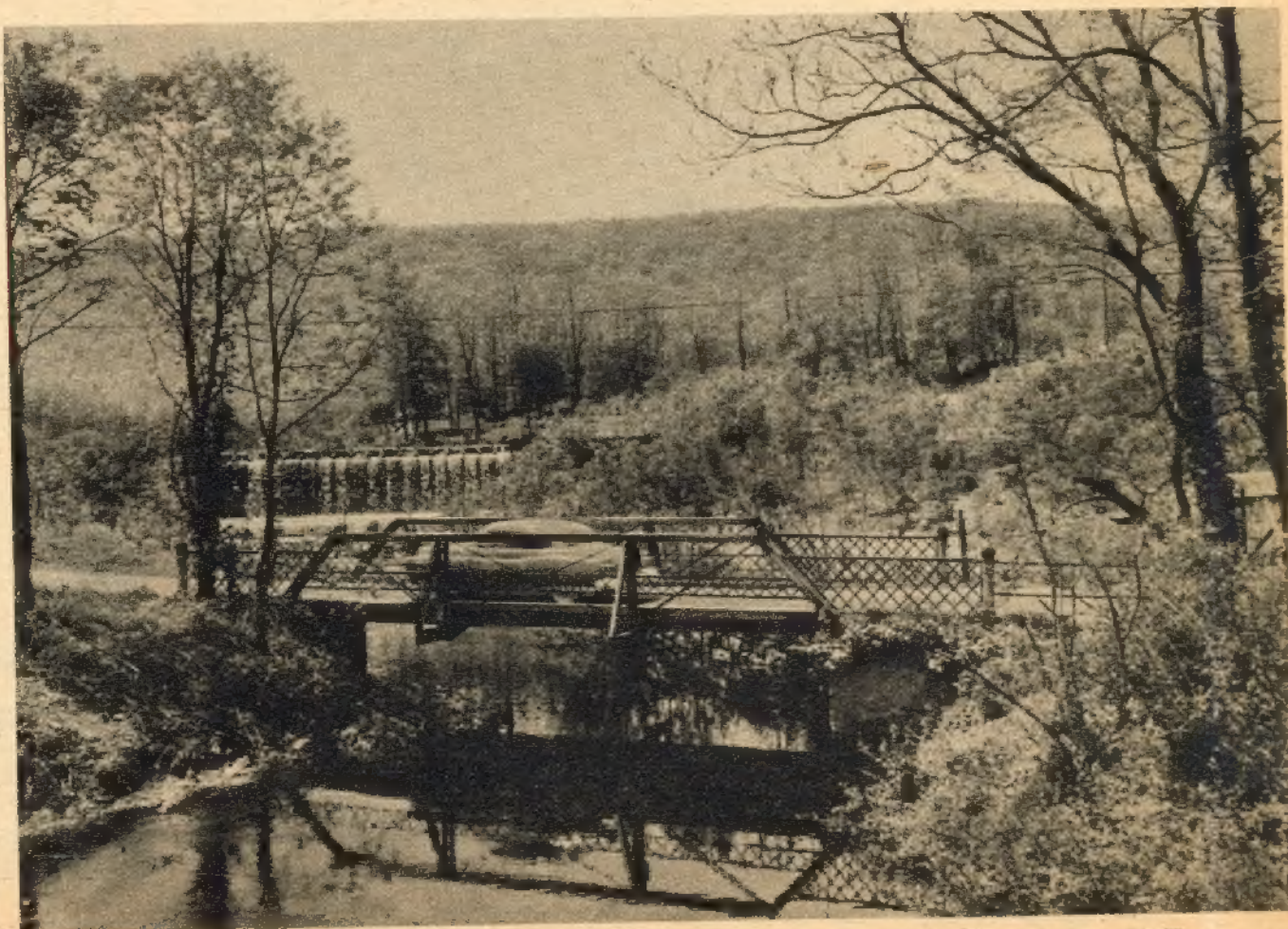
2. The photographs may be of any subject under the sun, but must be taken within sight of the road on a "Let's Explore" route.

3. Entries must be identified (a) as to the publication date or when the route was described in The Newark Sunday News Magazine, and (b) approximately where they were taken on that route.

4. Entries for any route must be mailed to "LET'S EXPLORE," NEWARK SUNDAY NEWS, NEWARK 1, N. J., before midnight on the 10th day after the route has been described. (Today is July 15, for instance, so 10 calendar days bring you to midnight of July 25 as the deadline.)

5. Any person shown in a photograph must be identified by name and address, and it is understood that the person has granted permission for publication of the photograph.

6. Ownership of any entry remains with the contestant, but an entry will be returned only if a return addressed envelope of adequate size and proper postage accompanies it.



Upper Rockaway River is crossed by old iron bridge near Lake Swannanoa Falls.